

Cleveland n: Bristol,

October 31 - 1880

My dear Miss Weston.

Whatever Mary may write will not release me from the duty (even if I desire it) of thanking you for your kind letter from Vevy, especially as I am now so much more able to write than I was when I last addressed you. But I was almost pained, knowing how much you had to occupy your time, & how many correspondents more deserving of your attention than we were, that you should have written 3 such long letters in one envelope as those you sent to Mary, Phoebe & myself: delighted as we all were to hear from you, any two of us would willingly have dispensed with their share in the acceptable packet, to have saved you time & trouble.

All your communications to us, referring as they did to so many places, & so many friends, were very interesting, ~~and~~ and we entered with lively sympathy into ¹⁹⁶all your proceedings. I hope you met with

the Scherers for their sakes, for yours,
& for my own? I feel much regard for ~~them~~
I am not at all surprised at the enthusi-
siasm with which you speak of Switzerland,
and, & I was glad when I could sympathize
in your admiration of some of the scenes
you describe, — those in the vicinity of
Vevey. The beauties of Interlachen I
know of only by hearsay; but have a vivid
recollection of those about Chamouni,
and the road thence to Martigny. We
did not stay in Vevey, but at the residence
of M. Huber, a pretty villa a mile or
two from V. called ^{l'Alain} ~~l'Alain~~. At Lan-
sanne I visited the ^{late} old blind Huber
(related to my friend) celebrated for his
observations upon Bees. We also went
to the chateaux of some of the large proprie-
taires near Vevey, & I remember seeing at
one, on a wall, a number of lines drawn
pointing to the numerous mountains,
with the name of each attached to these
pointers.

Since I wrote to you for the purpose of satisfying
you that I was not so ill as you might imagine, I
have by degrees written to various friends. On the 24th of

Sept: I addressed to Mr. Parish a sort of letter of thanks
for his civilities: also, pressing Anti Slavery on his
attention, (offering him Henry's copy of Dayliss) —
condemning, but rejoicing in Haynams' castigation,
& lauding the wisdom & firmness of the Boston
authorities in opposition to the Doctor! So I presume
Mr. P. will think me too liberal for him? On the
4th October I wrote a good long letter to Mr. May on
A.S. matters, & on the 11th not being willing that any
new friendships I had formed, or fresh advantages I
might have obtained, should deprive me of any
advantages I had previously been privileged with,
I addressed, as Mary says a rather free & easy
epistle to my old friend & correspondent Miss
Anne W. Weston. And since I have been at Camden
I have written the first letter I have been able to
send him to Mr. Webb. To Dayliss I have replied,
firmly adhering to my unswerving creed, that though
friend City disposed to him, my any useful A.S.
efforts I can make must be in favor of the Society,
maintaining the great principles of the Am. A.S. Socy.
I expressed also the regret I was felt at his
money having been hazarded in the "N. Star". Miss
Julia wrote to me, but her, I did not answer. Mr.
R. Smith (Secy to the abortive A.S. League) has told me
some curious facts in the unnatural history
of the "Griffin" specimens. I have also heard a
little talk with Jos. Barker: he sent me his "People
No. 150 with an article on Am. Slav. ^{on} the letters
from Mrs. Chapman & myself to the Glasgow Ladies

It really was a "bright idea", (Mary declares it
was hers) to tack on to Wharrie's book an Appeal for
the Boston Bazaar: I am not sure you will think
it has been efficiently carried out?

Your estimate of Russell Carpenter is a natural
one for you, but it is not correct. He is any thing but
a time-server. My greatest hope for him was, that
the abuse of the Abol! might lead him to defend
them: failing that, I expected him to return as
dull in the cause of the Slave as he went to the U.S.
He says he could not take a congregation in the New
States. He was a bad companion for me while I was
ill, for I could not patiently hear his apologetic
remarks.

I think he was anxious to get at
the truth of the Slavery question: that he adopted the
best mode, I cannot say. I do not however
think an English traveller going to the U.S. to see
& hear all he can, & to mix in all society, can be
found fault with for not committing himself to
favouring the views of any particular as party, - if
at least he can be independent, without any violence
to his conscience. I am curious to know

what Geo. Thompson will do, & say in America.

It seems to me a matter of questionable
propriety for a British Member of Parliament
to take an active part in any of the political
movements of a foreign country which he may
visit? Mr. Smith writes anxiously about him.

Perhaps Mr. has told you of our little gathering
here? I am indeed well attended, & Kate Parker's
merry laugh keeps us all alive. I am a well
understand, & not be surprised to hear, that
the rightly attention of my friends are now
by no means sufficient for my exigence.
I expect them equally in the morning, as I
always, breakfast in bed: so she may imagine
the procession at night with candles, and in
the morning with tea to eat &c., around my
bed. I am thankful to say that I feel de-
cidedly recovering: for 2 months I have not had

2nd) such good nights as the two last. Kate undertakes
to prescribe, & compel the execution of, my walking
about in the fine air of this place. Her mother & sister
have just taken a house in London for 6 months.

We have been reading nearly thro' the 2 last Lib
which are so full of interesting matters in reference
to fugitive slaves. I am glad to see the determi-
nation of defending themselves by arms, if actually
seized, & am rather amused at the counsel of the
"Non-Resistants" who advise them to abstain from
violence, - unless they see no objection to it them-
selves! I have an impression that sooner
or later F. Douglass will come forth in a conspi-
cuous character. there appears to me something
about him of an unusual & superior kind.

It will be a comfort to us to have you all again
so near to us as Paris, - within a journey of 19 hours,
tho' we do not abate a portion of our jealousy of that
Place. The political condition of France seems to
me more & more uncertain. I wish I saw more
evidence of real republicanism, ^{being for them}
I think, the next best thing to a clever despotic
Ruler, which is not likely to be met with in any
of the present aspirants to power, not excluding
the President. I shall expect to hear of their going
to assist some of the German despots as they did
King of Rome: - or perhaps a speculation among
the Alsatian provinces may tempt them to a
little business in that line. I believe the present
& the past misfortune of France is the entire ab-
sence of high moral, religious, & political prin-
ciple among the more educated classes of society
1878. I believe I have many more things I wished

to say, but my writing time is wearing away,
& I doubt not Mary has told you of all the
can interest you. For the present then, my
dear Miss Weston I must take my leave of
you, and with the sweet & pleasing recollections
of the past, and the kindest regards to Mrs. Fels,
Chapman, Susan & Annie, I am,

Yours very sincerely
J. B. Estlin

As Phoebe is not here, I shall not
allude to "that walk" which she "never
took."

When opportunity occurs will you
make our compliments Madame Mohl.
We want to hear again of that sweet Ida
Mohl? What do you think of the present
state of Germany? I hope that despotic
powers may not be stronger than id, but rather
terrible for the result